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PART 2 OF 4
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UNIVERSE
SCOURGE WUZ HERE
Tracy Yardley! Jim Amash
Hunzeker

WELCOME TO ZONE JAIL -- A PRISON TO HOLD THE BADDEST OF THE BAD ACROSS ALL DIMENSIONS -- WHERE SCOURGE, THE "EVIL SONIC," MUST WIN OVER A GANG OF DANGEROUS MERCENARIES IF HE'S EVER TO ESCAPE!
I DON'T CARE HOW LAME THE DESTRUCTIX MIGHT BE! IF THEY CAN GET ME OUT OF THIS PLACE, IT'LL BE WORTH MAKING NICE WITH THEM!
HOW'S THAT, SNOT? YA LIKE THAT?
NOT TOO HARD! HE MIGHT START CRYING!
HA HA
HA HA!
SCOURGE THE HEDGE-HOG BITTER PUNCHING BAG
INSIDE JOB PART 2
ANY PORT IN A STORM
WRITER: IAN FLYNN
PENCILS: TRACY YARDLEY!
INKS: JIM AMASH
COLORS: STEVE DOWNER
LETTERS: PHIL FELIX
COVER BY YARDLEY, AMASH AND HUNZEKER
EDITOR: PAUL KAMINSKI
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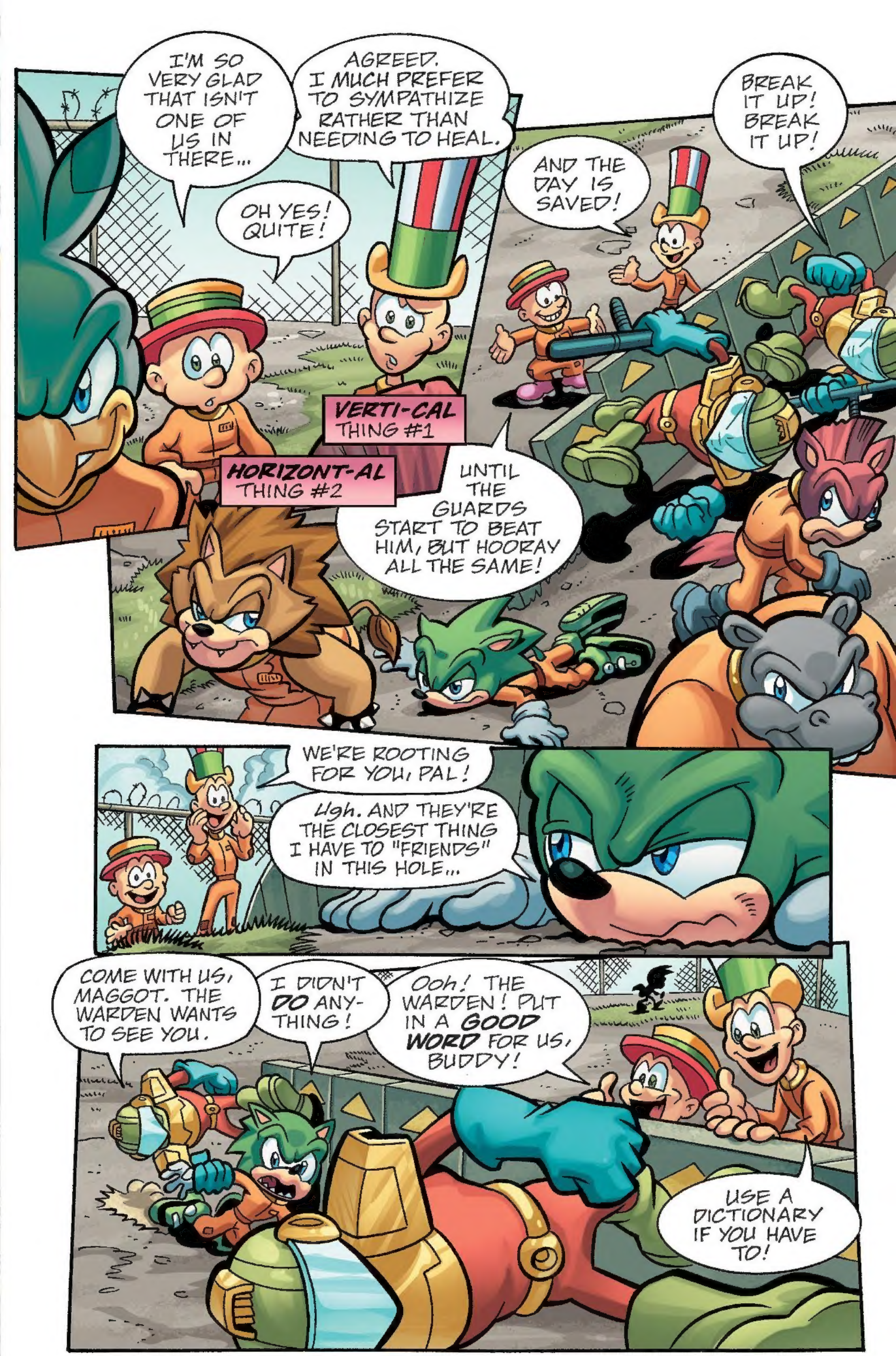

I'M SO VERY GLAD THAT ISN'T ONE OF US IN THERE...
AGREED. I MUCH PREFER TO SYMPATHIZE RATHER THAN NEEDING TO HEAL.
OH YES! QUITE!
VERTI-CAL THING #1
HORIZONT-AL THING #2
AND THE DAY IS SAVED!
BREAK IT UP! BREAK IT UP!
UNTIL THE GUARDS START TO BEAT HIM, BUT HOORAY ALL THE SAME!
WE'RE ROOTING FOR YOU, PAL!
Ugh. AND THEY'RE THE CLOSEST THING I HAVE TO "FRIENDS" IN THIS HOLE...
COME WITH US, MAGGOT. THE WARDEN WANTS TO SEE YOU.
I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING!
Ooh! THE WARDEN! PUT IN A GOOD WORD FOR US, BUDDY!
USE A DICTIONARY IF YOU HAVE TO!

Ah, MY PRIZE PRISONER! YOU DIDN'T GIVE THE GUARDS ANY TROUBLE, DID YOU? OF COURSE NOT! YOU'RE ON YOUR WAY TO BEING REFORMED, THANKS TO **MY** MARVELOUS FACILITY!

YEAH... WHAT YOU SAID.

WARDEN ZOBOTNIK
JAIL ADMINISTRATOR

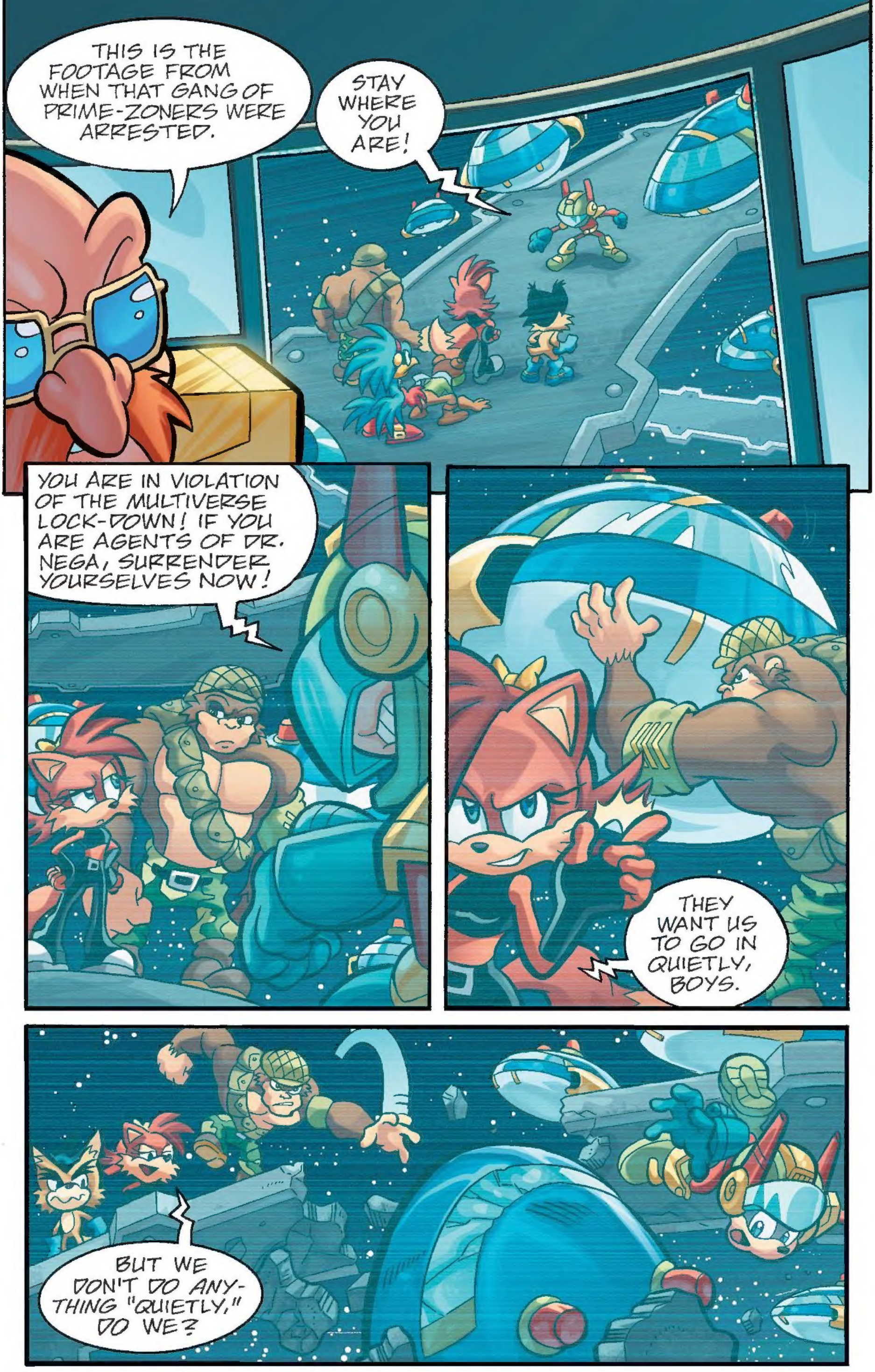
I'M DEEPLY CONCERNED FOR YOU, SCOURGE. I'VE MADE IT MY MISSION TO REFORM YOU...

UH-HUH.

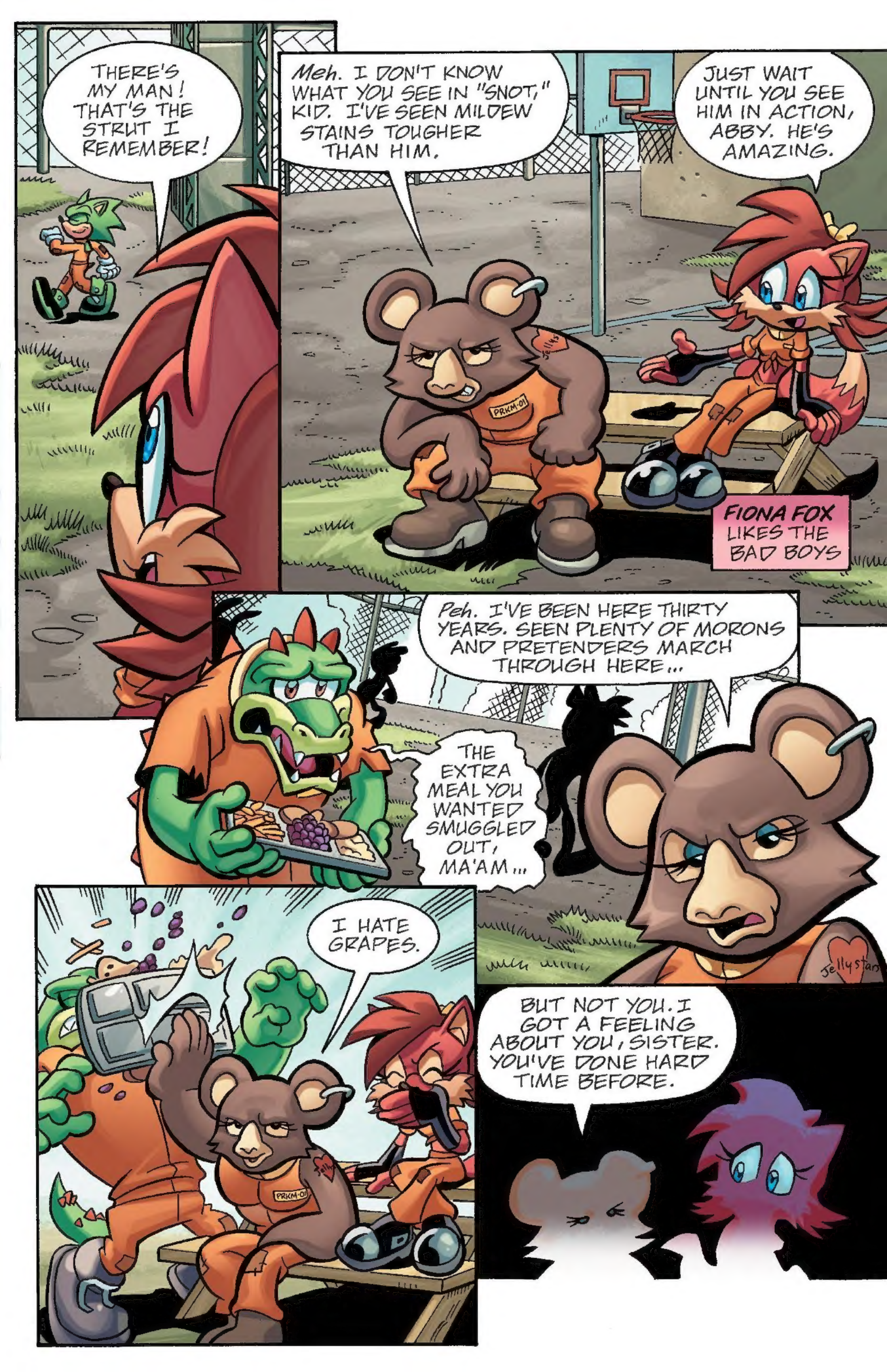
...SO WHEN I ASK, "WHAT'S GOING ON BETWEEN YOU AND THE DESTRUCTIX?" YOU KNOW I ONLY HAVE YOUR BEST INTERESTS AT HEART.

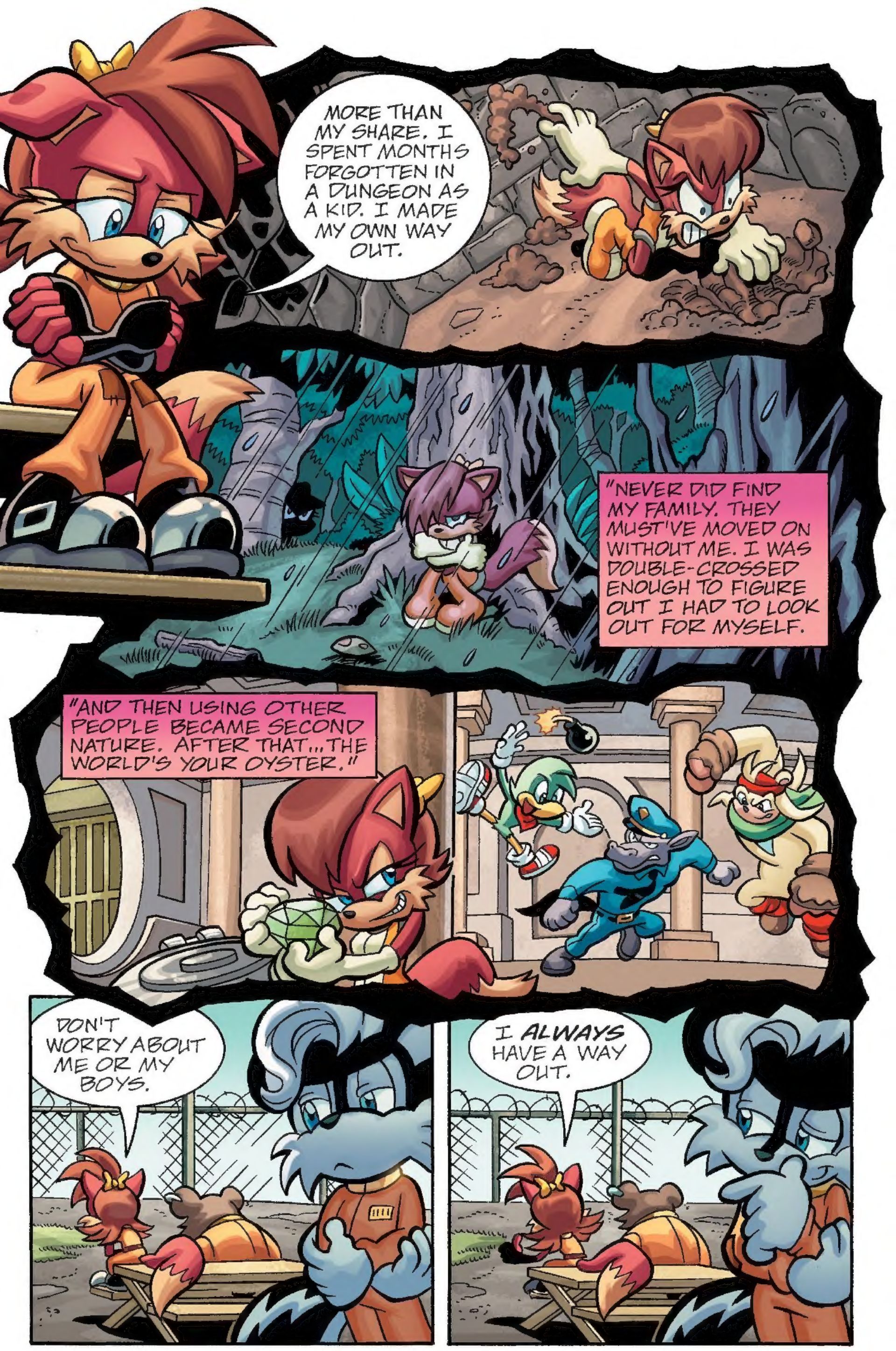
OH, THEM? THEY'RE JUST MARKING ME AS THEIR FAVORITE PUNCHING BAG. NOTHING SPECIAL.

Hmmm. I'D LIKE YOU TO SEE SOME-THING...


THIS IS THE FOOTAGE FROM WHEN THAT GANG OF PRIME-ZONERS WERE ARRESTED.
STAY WHERE YOU ARE!
YOU ARE IN VIOLATION OF THE MULTIVERSE LOCK-DOWN! IF YOU ARE AGENTS OF DR. NEGA, SURRENDER YOURSELVES NOW!
THEY WANT US TO GO IN QUIETLY, BOYS.
BUT WE DON'T DO ANY-THING "QUIETLY," DO WE?

KER-RASH! FALL BACK! FALL BACK!
CRACK! AUGH!
KA-BOOM! OFFICER DOWN!
ZAP! ZAP! BACK-UP! WE NEED BACK-UP!
HE RIPPED OFF MY--!
CLICK!
THESE MONSTERS ARE **TOO** HARDCORE FOR YOU TO HANDLE. YOUR SUPPRESSION SQUAD WERE MERE THUGS, AND YOUR ANTICS WITH THE VARIOUS ROBOTNIKS OF THE MULTI-VERSE ARE **NOTHING** COMPARED TO THESE MERCENARIES!
YOU CAN TAKE YOUR LUMPS, BUT I WORRY THEY'LL BREAK YOU WORSE THAN I EVER--ER--EVER IMAGINED.
DON'T WORRY, SIR. IF THINGS GET OUT OF HAND, I'LL COME TO YOU.
THANK YOU, MY BOY. YOU'VE MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE.
AT LAST! HIS SPIRIT HAS BEEN BROKEN! NOW I CAN REMOLD HIM AS A FORCE FOR GOOD!
I'LL WIPE MY FEET ON YOUR FACE ON MY WAY OUT THE DOOR.


THERE'S MY MAN! THAT'S THE STRUT I REMEMBER!
Meh. I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU SEE IN "SNOT," KID. I'VE SEEN MILDEW STAINS TOUGHER THAN HIM.
JUST WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE HIM IN ACTION, ABBY. HE'S AMAZING.
FIONA FOX LIKES THE BAD BOYS
Peh. I'VE BEEN HERE THIRTY YEARS. SEEN PLENTY OF MORONS AND PRETENDERS MARCH THROUGH HERE...
THE EXTRA MEAL YOU WANTED SMUGGLED OUT, MA'AM...
I HATE GRAPES.
BUT NOT YOU. I GOT A FEELING ABOUT YOU, SISTER. YOU'VE DONE HARD TIME BEFORE.


MORE THAN MY SHARE. I SPENT MONTHS FORGOTTEN IN A DUNGEON AS A KID. I MADE MY OWN WAY OUT.
"NEVER DID FIND MY FAMILY. THEY MUST'VE MOVED ON WITHOUT ME. I WAS DOUBLE-CROSSED ENOUGH TO FIGURE OUT I HAD TO LOOK OUT FOR MYSELF.
"AND THEN USING OTHER PEOPLE BECAME SECOND NATURE. AFTER THAT... THE WORLD'S YOUR OYSTER."
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME OR MY BOYS.
I ALWAYS HAVE A WAY OUT.

EXERCISE YARD...
GRRRR
'SUP? WANT ME TO SPOT YOU?
YOU DON'T WEIGH HALF AS MUCH AS THE BAR.
FINE. LOOK, I'M JUST TRYING TO MAKE UP FOR WHAT I SAID YESTERDAY.
SO NOW I AM WORTH YOUR TIME?
YES! SURE! CRIMINY, WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?
SGT. SIMIAN
DESTRUCTIX STRONGMAN

"LET ME TELL YOU A STORY. YEARS AGO, WHEN DR. ROBOTNIK'S FORCES FIRST BEGAN TO SPREAD, I WANTED TO TAKE ACTION..."

WHO CARES IF IT'S AN ACT OF WAR?! THOSE ROBOTS TOOK A SHOT AT YOU, GRANDPA! WE HAVE TO STRIKE BACK!

MELLOW OUT, SIMON! THE GREAT JUNGLE IS ***MASSIVE.*** THE FAT MAN'S ROBOTS WON'T FIND US AGAIN!

"I TOOK MATTERS INTO MY OWN HANDS, BUT..."

AMMO

NONE OF THESE WEAPONS WERE BOUGHT, WERE THEY?

WHAT DOES IT MATTER?! DR. ROBOTNIK HAS A BASE ON THE EDGE OF THE JUNGLE!* WE CAN DESTROY IT AND END THIS ***TONIGHT!***

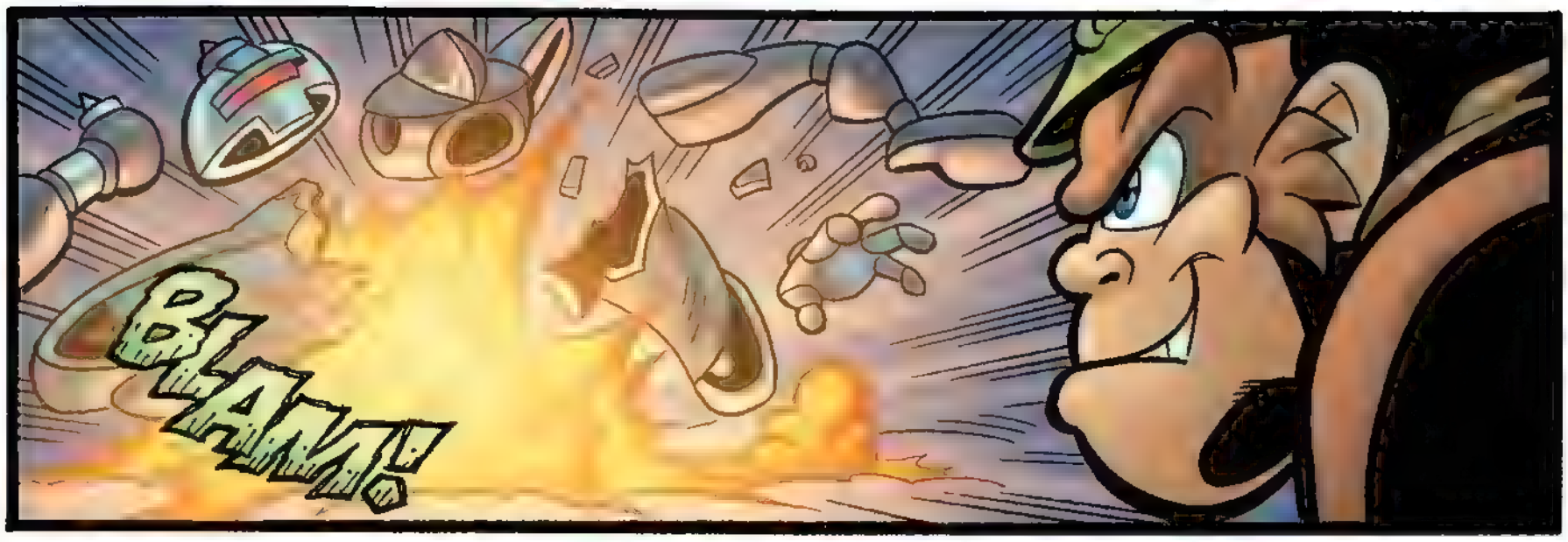
*SEE **SONIC ARCHIVES** VOL.12 FOR THE AFTERMATH!

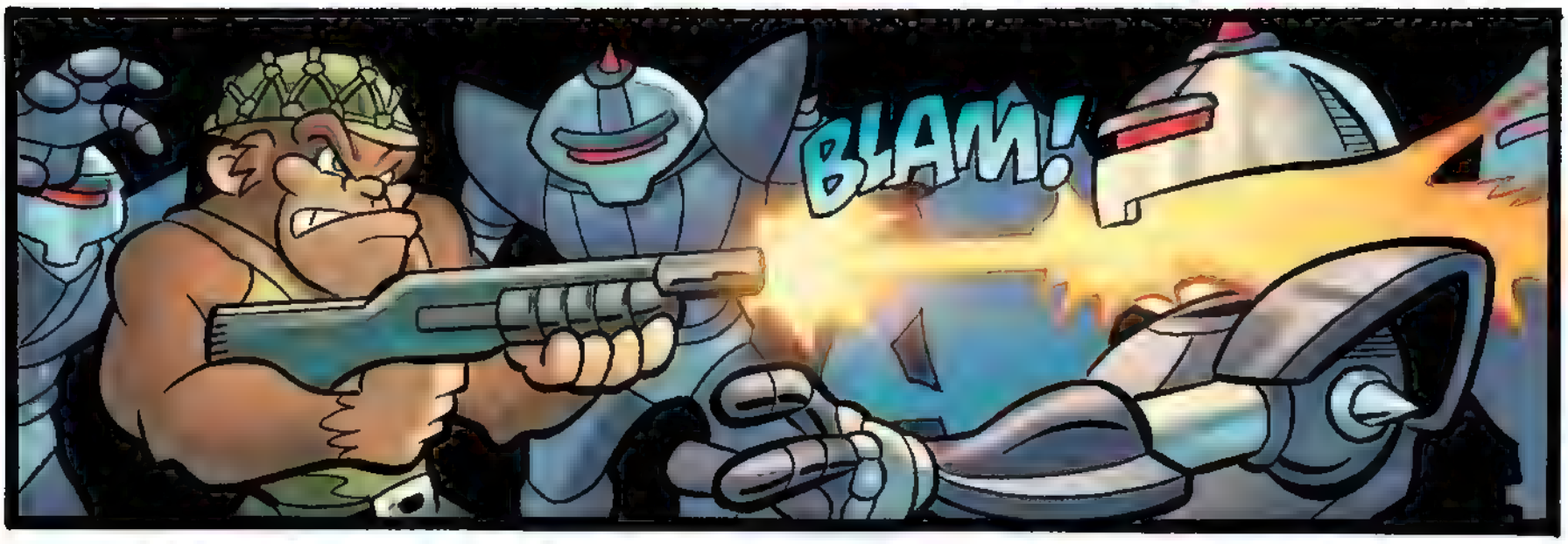
FINE, SIMON. HAVE YOUR LITTLE WAR. ABANDON OUR PEACEFUL WAYS AND HAVE A BLAST.

BUT YOU'RE NOT DRAGGING OUR FAMILY, OR OUR PEOPLE, INTO THE FIRE WITH YOU!

"SO I WENT TO WAGE MY ONE-MAN WAR..."

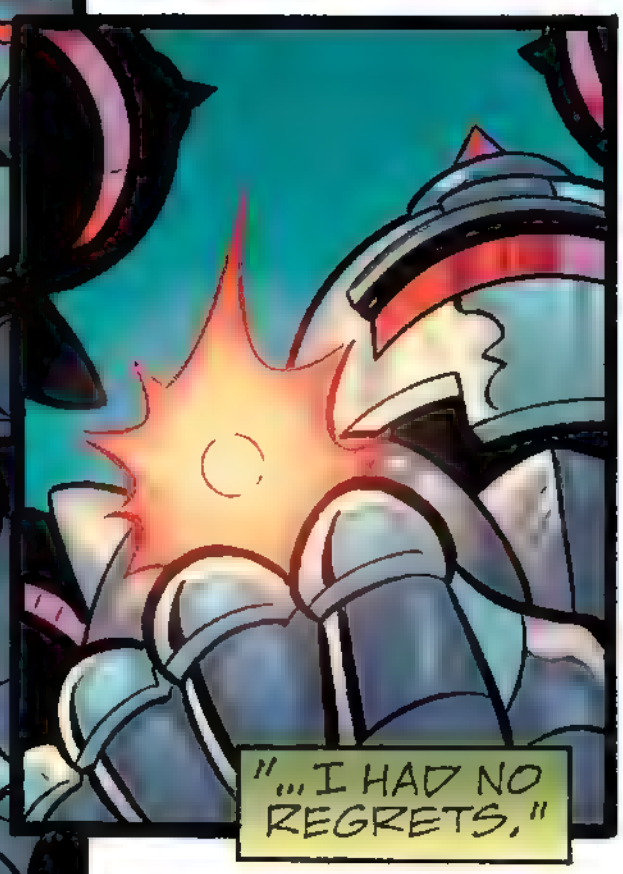
"...AND I WAS GLORIOUS."
CLANG!
CRACK-
OW!


BLAM!


BLAM!

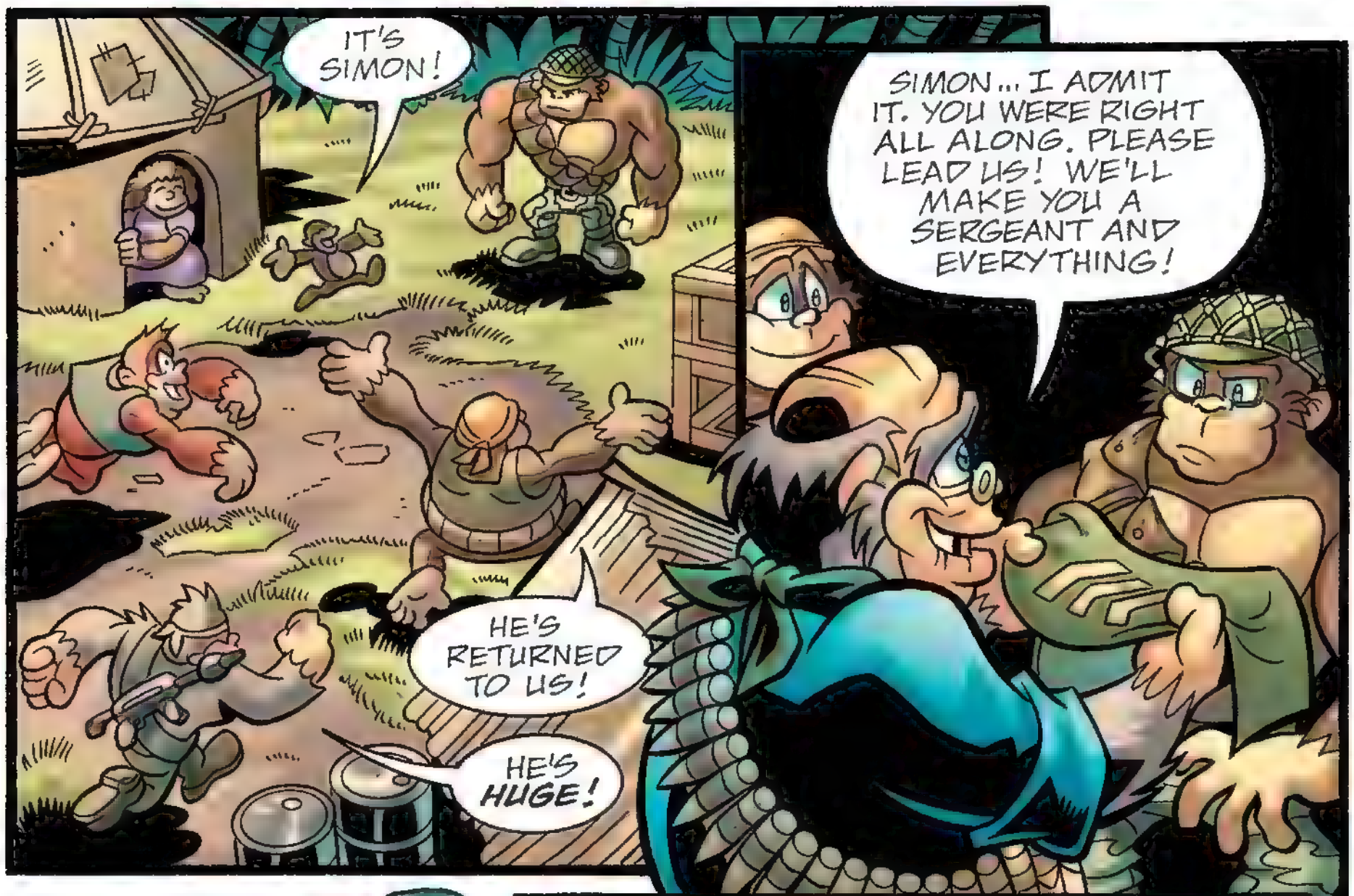
WAK!

"EVEN THEN, WHEN THE END WAS IMMINENT...


"...I HAD NO REGRETS."

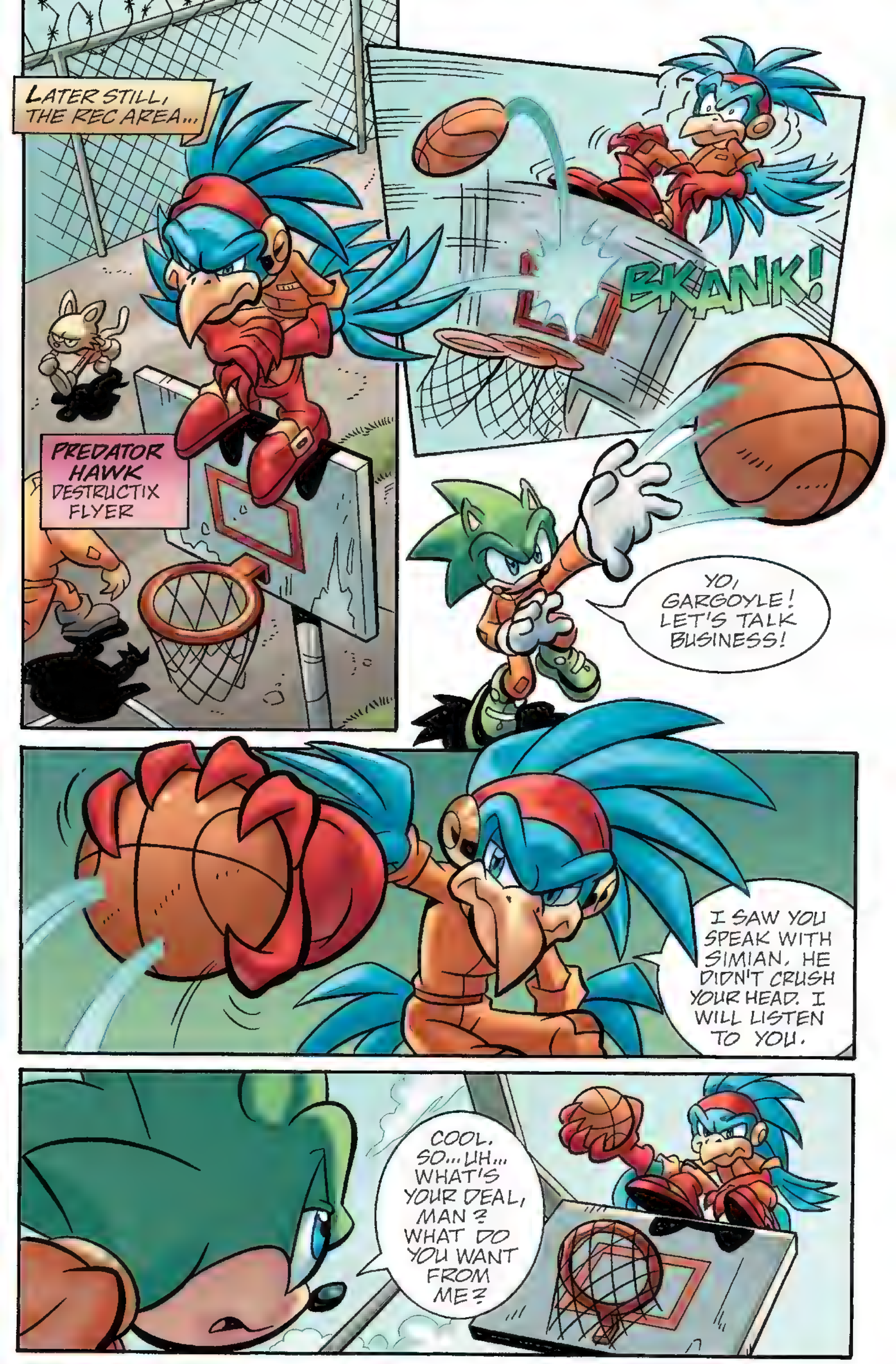
WHUH--!
YOU'VE KEPT ME WAITING, YOUNG WARRIOR.
WH-WHO ARE YOU?
AN ENTERPRISING MAN WITH A DISCERNING EYE FOR TALENT. THAT WAS QUITE THE SPECTACLE YOU PERFORMED THIS EVENING.
I'M NOT DEAD... I'M... NOT EVEN HURT?
THANKS TO MY POWER. THE SAME POWER THAT CAN MAKE YOU EVEN STRONGER, AS LONG AS YOU SERVE ME LOYALLY.
MORE POWER...? ENOUGH TO CRUSH MY ENEMIES?
ANY ENEMY WHO CROSSES YOU.

"I SERVED MOGUL FOR A TIME, EVEN IF I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND HIS PLANS. I LEARNED THE POWER OF STRONG TEAM-MATES. THEN, WITH HIS PERMISSION, I RETURNED HOME..."


IT'S SIMON!
HE'S RETURNED TO US!
HE'S HUGE!
SIMON... I ADMIT IT. YOU WERE RIGHT ALL ALONG. PLEASE LEAD US! WE'LL MAKE YOU A SERGEANT AND EVERYTHING!

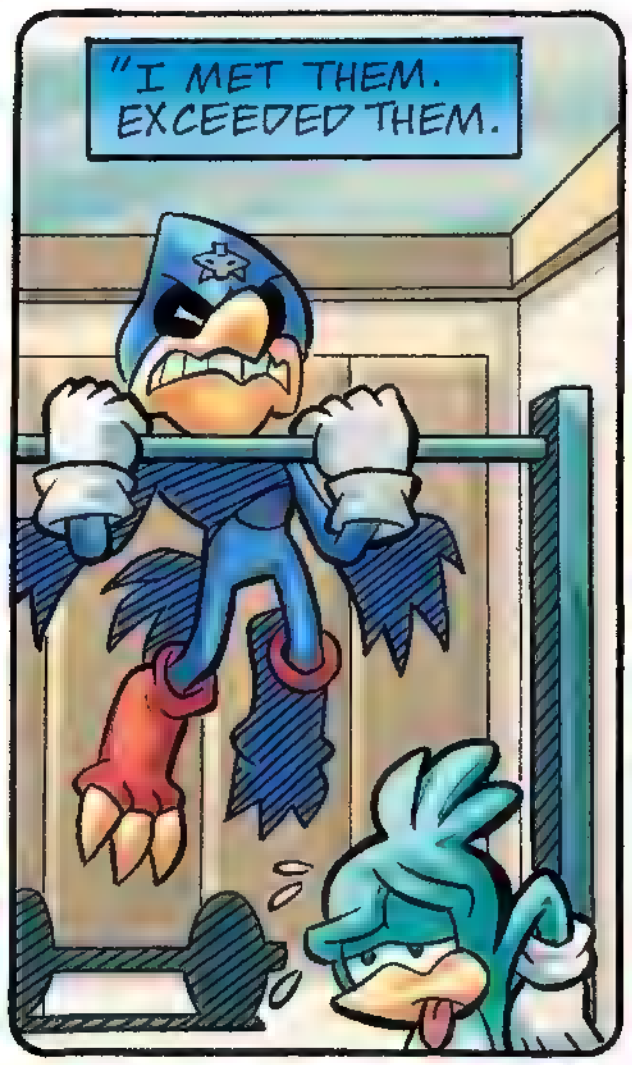
YOU KNOW... I HAVE EARNED THIS FOR ALL I'VE DONE...
...BUT YOU ALL HAVEN'T EARNED ME.

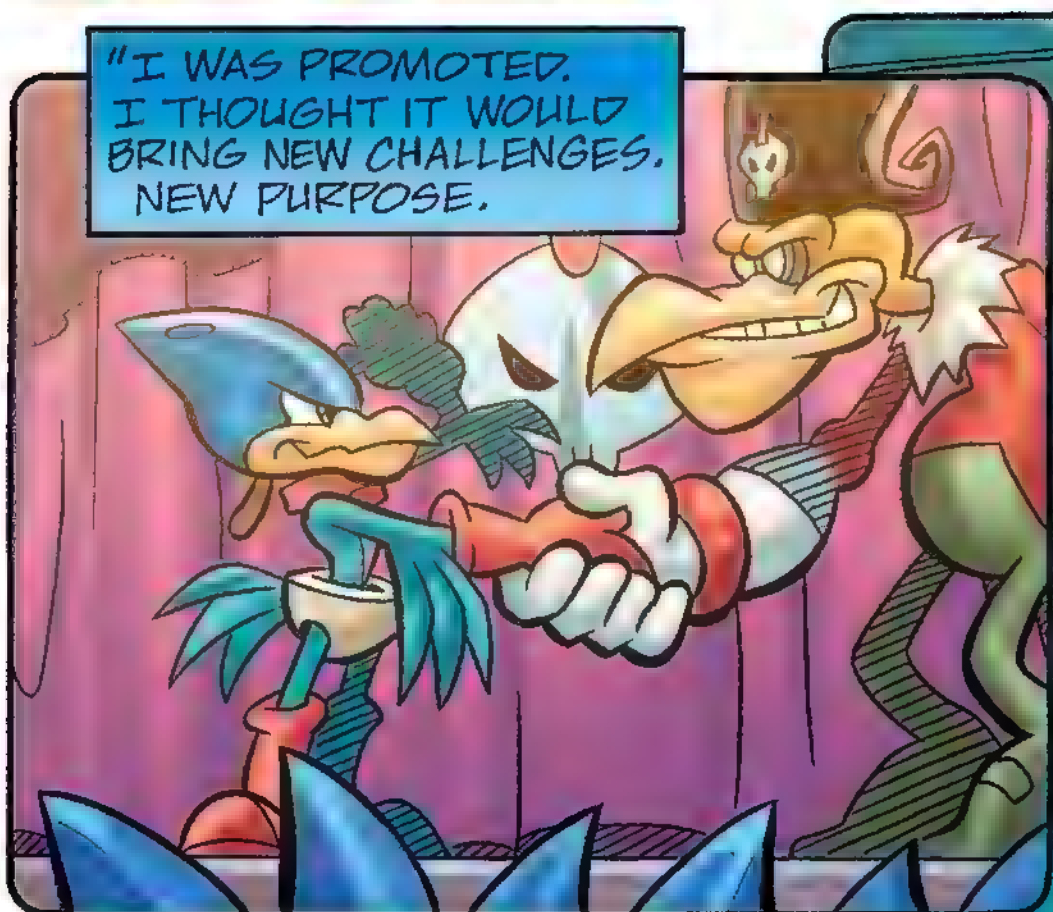
DUDE. HARSH. BUT WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH ME?
YOU ASKED WHAT I WANTED FROM YOU. I WANT TO WORK WITH THE STRONGEST.
DO NOT DISMISS US WITH ONE BREATH, THEN BEG FOR US IN THE NEXT. YOU CONQUERED YOUR PLANET. SHOW THIS PRISON--SHOW ME--THAT STRENGTH AGAIN.
IS THAT ALL? DUDE, I WANT US OUT OF HERE. AND WE'LL GO STRAIGHT THROUGH ANYONE IN OUR WAY.
MUCH BETTER. I CANNOT SPEAK FOR MY COMRADES, BUT YOU HAVE MY STRENGTH.
SWEET. CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU BUST HEADS, BIG GUY.

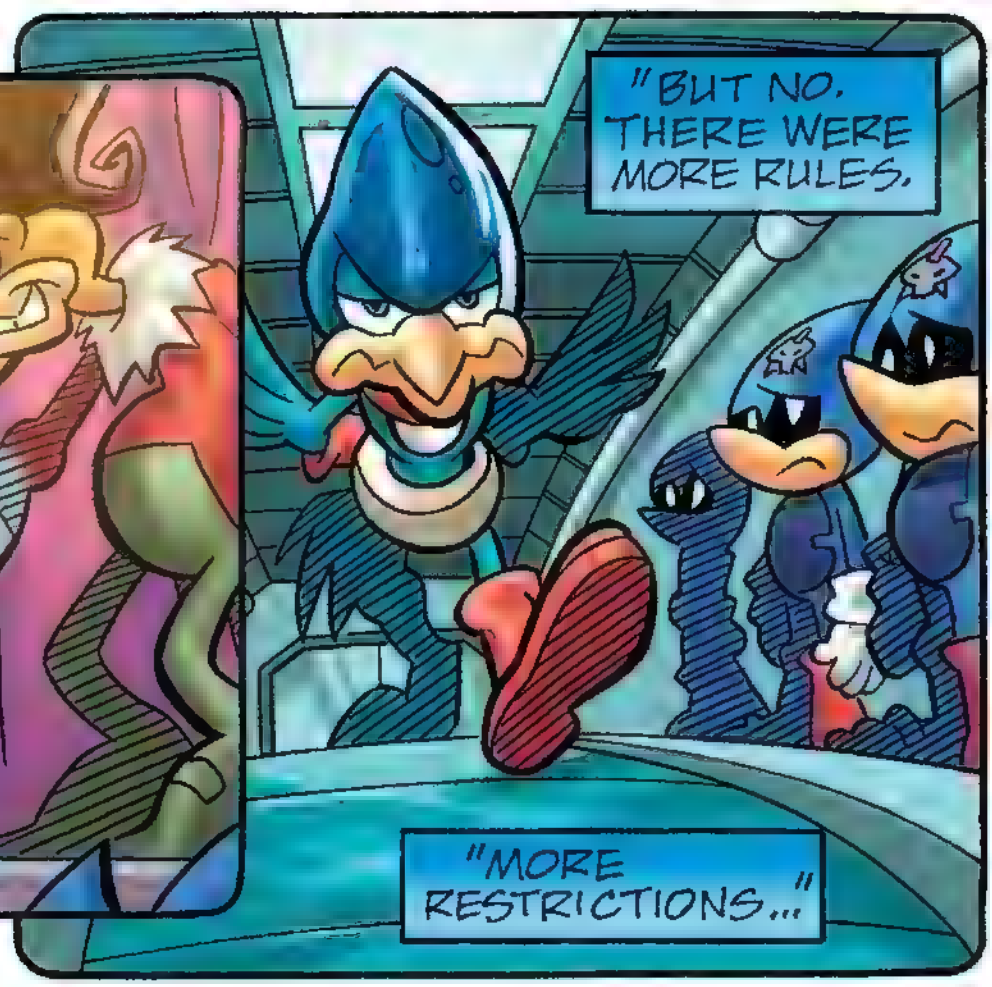

LATER STILL, THE REC AREA...
PREDATOR HAWK
DESTRUCTIX FLYER
BKANK!
YO, GARGOYLE! LET'S TALK BUSINESS!
I SAW YOU SPEAK WITH SIMIAN. HE DIDN'T CRUSH YOUR HEAD. I WILL LISTEN TO YOU.
COOL. SO...UH... WHAT'S YOUR DEAL, MAN? WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?

"WANT? WHAT I'VE ALWAYS WANTED. PURPOSE. CHALLENGE.

"AND YEARS AGO I THOUGHT I'D FOUND IT IN THE BATTLE BIRD ARMADA...







"AND NO FUTURE.

"POWER. PURPOSE. FREEDOM. ALL WERE **GIVEN** TO THE HEIR.

"I **EARNED** THEM."

GET OFF ME, YOU CRAZY--!

SLAM!

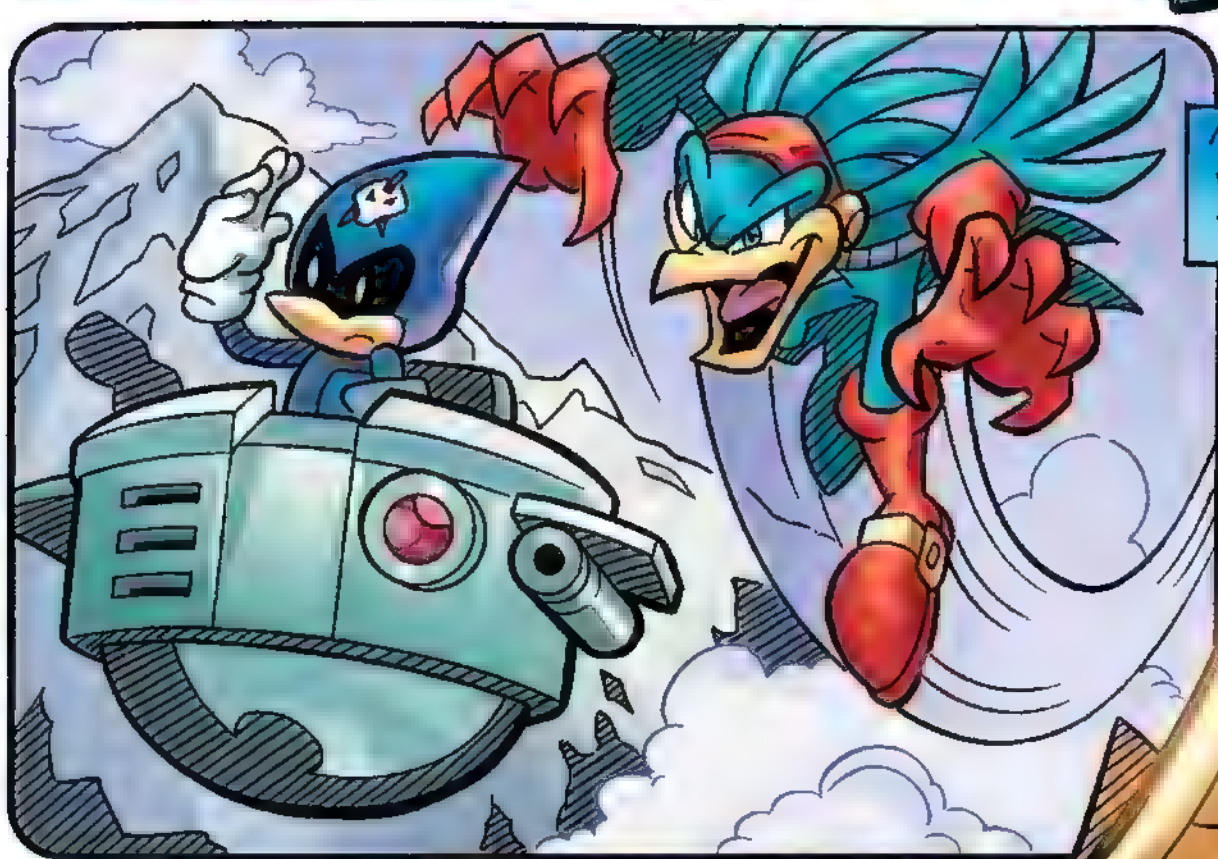
YOU **DARE** THREATEN YOUR FUTURE BATTLE LORD?

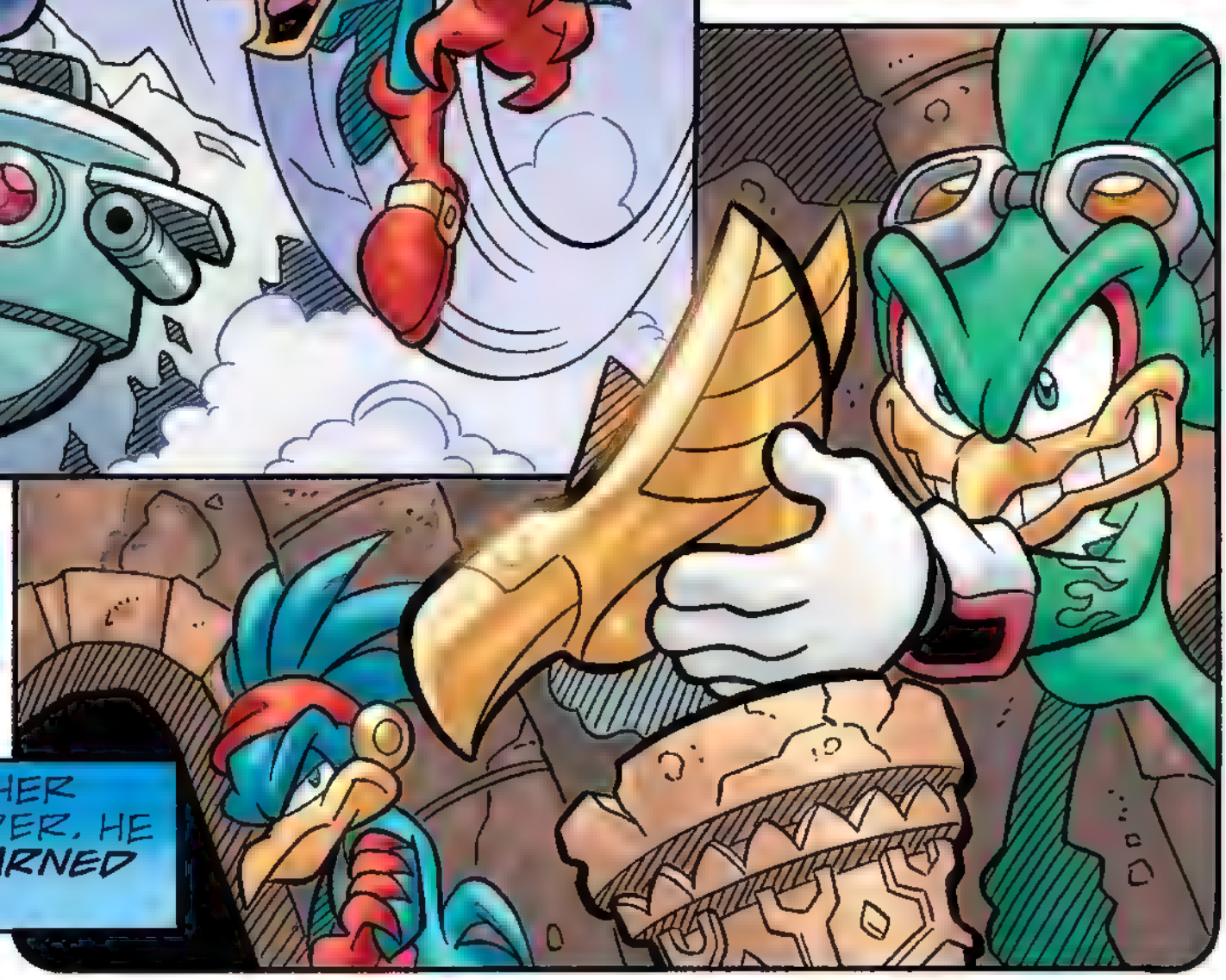
HE IS **WEAK!** HE IS MY PREY!

I'LL CLIP YOUR WINGS FOR THAT-- AND THAT'S JUST TO START!

"BACK THEN, I HUNTED THE ROGUES. LATER, THE ROGUES FREED ME. ALMOST IRONIC.
KEY 3018

"THEY PROMISED NEW CHALLENGES. NEW HUNTING. LIFE ON THE RUN WAS... BETTER.

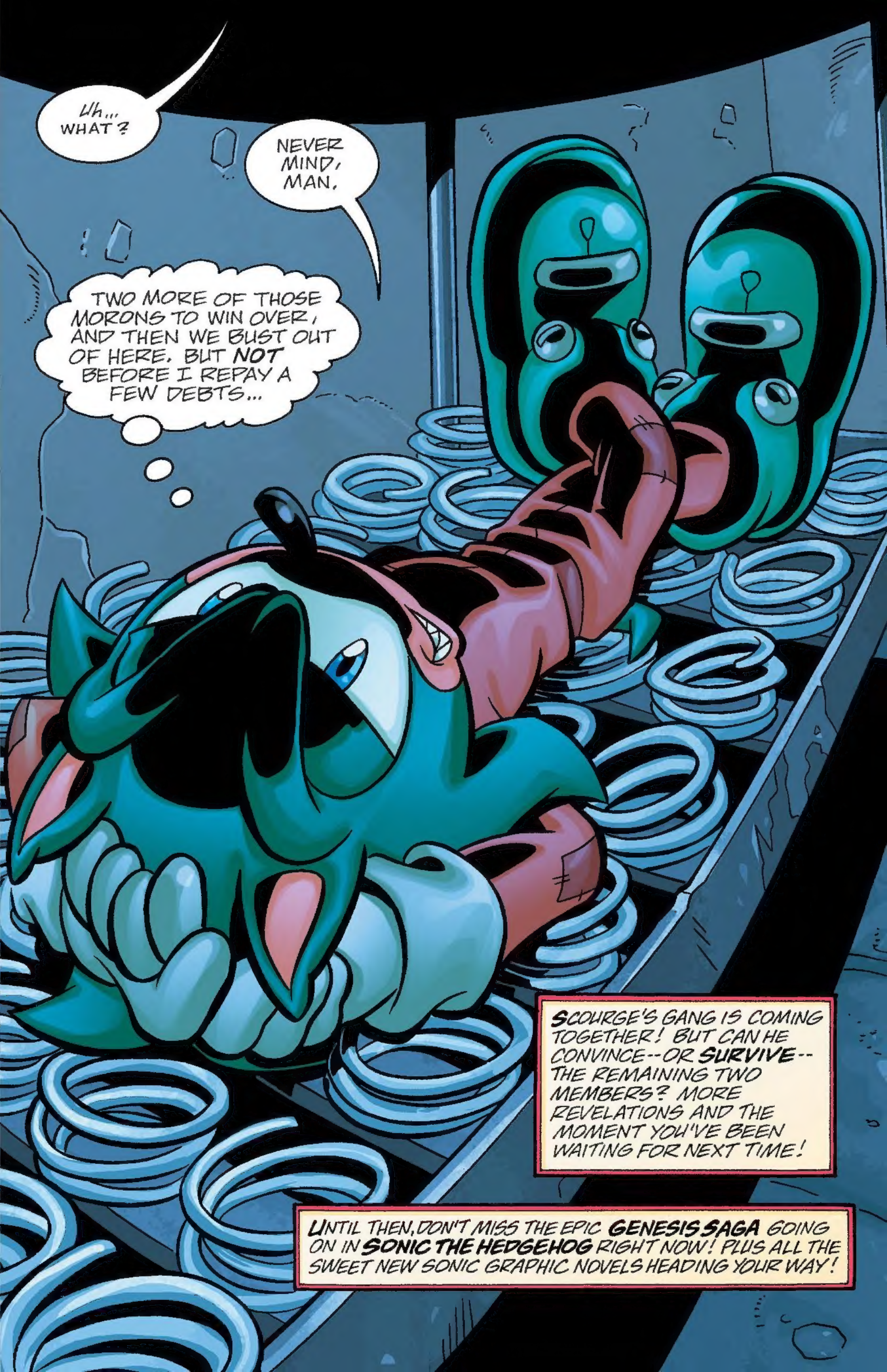

"SOMETIMES WE HUNTED THE ARMADA,


"BUT MOSTLY WE HUNTED TREASURE.
"WITH ANOTHER WEAK LEADER, HE HAD NOT EARNED HIS PLACE.

"THEN I MET HIM..."
I'M TELLING YOU, MAN, IT'S GOT MYSTICAL POWERS OR SOMETHING. TWO GRAND OR I WALK.
I WILL PAY YOUR OUTRAGEOUS PRICE...
...BUT ONLY IF THIS BRILLIANT LIVING WEAPON COMES WITH ME.
WEAPON?
YOU DO NOT HUNT BAUBLES. YOU HUNT THE LIVING. I COULD USE A MAN OF YOUR SKILL, YOUR PASSION, TO REMOVE CERTAIN... OBSTACLES IN MY WAY.
"MOGUL GAVE ME PURPOSE. MOGUL GAVE ME PREY. CHALLENGING PREY."

WHOOMP!
CHALLENGE ME. GIVE ME PREY. EARN MY RESPECT. THAT IS WHAT I WANT.
IF YOU CAN KEEP UP, I'LL LET YOU TAKE OUT A FEW GUYS FOR ME!
BETTER. I'LL BE WAITING.
BREEEEEEEEET! ALL INMATES TO CELL BLOCK RING! DINNER TO COMMENCE AT 1800 HOURS! LIGHTS OUT AT 2100 HOURS!
DO NOT DISAPPOINT ME, OR I WILL HUNT YOU INSTEAD.
YEAH, YEAH, YEAH.

HEY, BUDDY! YOU STILL HAVE ALL YOUR LIMBS!
WE WERE WORRIED WHEN YOU WERE TALKING WITH THOSE TERRIFYING DESTRUCTIX FELLOWS!
I WAS SCHEDULING TIMES TO GET BEAT-UP. I NEED TIME TO HEAL IN BETWEEN, Y'KNOW?
WELL THAT'S... COURTEOUS OF YOU.
IF A BIT NIHILISTIC.
IT'S ALL GOOD. THE SCHEDULE CONFLICTS MEAN I GET A WEEK WITHOUT A SERIOUS THRASHING.
NOW THOSE ARE MANAGEMENT SKILLS!
WOULD YOU MANAGE OUR CALENDARS? WE'RE FRIGHTFULLY OVER-BOOKED FOR PUMMELINGS!
SMILE WHILE YOU CAN, SNOT. I STOLE FIVE TRAYS OF BEANS AT DINNER! HUH HUH =SNORT= HUH HUH!
WON'T MAKE MUCH OF A DIFFERENCE FOR YOU, SMALLS.


Uh... WHAT?
NEVER MIND, MAN.
TWO MORE OF THOSE MORONS TO WIN OVER, AND THEN WE BUST OUT OF HERE. BUT NOT BEFORE I REPAY A FEW DEBTS...
SCOURGE'S GANG IS COMING TOGETHER! BUT CAN HE CONVINCE--OR SURVIVE--THE REMAINING TWO MEMBERS? MORE REVELATIONS AND THE MOMENT YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR NEXT TIME!
UNTIL THEN, DON'T MISS THE EPIC GENESIS SAGA GOING ON IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG RIGHT NOW! PLUS ALL THE SWEET NEW SONIC GRAPHIC NOVELS HEADING YOUR WAY!

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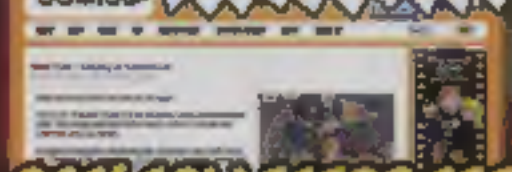

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OFF PANEL INSIDE JOB

SCRIPT: IAN FLYNN PENCILS: JAMAL PEPPERS INKS: GARY MARTIN COLORS: PAUL KAMINSKI

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COMING SOON!

NEXT ISSUE: 31

THE BADDEST GANG IN ZONE JAIL IS ALMOST ASSEMBLED IN...

SCOURGE: LOCK-DOWN

PART THREE (of four)

TWO DOWN, TWO TO GO AS SCOURGE PUTS THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON HIS BREAK-OUT SCHEME! IT'S GO TIME!

ON SALE THE WEEK OF 8/23/11

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG: 227

THE EGGMAN COMETHI

SONIC AND HIS NEW FRIENDS GET THEIR SIGHTS ON THE BIG KAHUNA NEXT ISSUE! DON'T MISS ALL THE ACTION IN:

"SONIC: GENESIS" pt2 (of4)

ON SALE THE WEEK OF 08/09/11

Dear 'My Sonic Universe,'
I just got the first part of Scourge's arc today!

Perhaps today IS a good day to read comics! Prepare for READING SPEED!

I loved seeing Fiona and the Destructix again! As well as everyone's favorite green meanie.

Glad you're diggin' the return of the Destructix -- I missed them too! Reading their back-story in this arc was a real treat!

I also can't believe that Horizont-Al and Verti-Cal have returned! Not to mention a cameo from Mephiles and Void! Speaking of Mephiles, will the real one appear in the comics soon?

This cameo will have to do for a little while! I can say no more!

And when will Dr. Nega appear? I'm getting impatient over here.

Can't tell ya :)

Keep juicin'!
Sincerely,
Mark F.
sent to
sonic@archiecomics.com

P.S. Where does the phrase "I'll have the usual" come from? I missed most of Silver's arc.

Thanks for writing in, Mark! "I'll have the usual" is short-hand for "I have some questions and comments" when writing your letters to MySonicUnvierse or Sonic-Grams. Plus, if you say that in your letter, I'll know you've been paying attention!

Dear 'My Sonic Universe,'
Hello again; I can't remember how many emails I sent, but I'll have the usual.

See, Mark?

First off, I got hooked on trying to figure out who this traitor is that Silver has been hunting down. Sometime around midnight, an idea hit me.

Hopefully not too hard! Ha-cha!

In the story "Future Tense" (issue #215), Silver comes across a book, reading that Sonic, Sally, Antoine, and Boomer were the first Freedom Fighters (though I don't know why the book didn't include Tails). I did some back-tracking, which mixed me up in "The Original Freedom Fighters" (issue #142) because those are Col. Stripe, MP Bones, Spot Long, Sir Peckers, and Private Scales. On top of that, in the next issue, from Sonic's story, Private Scales was the traitor. Could Private Scales be the traitor Silver is looking for?

Some mighty fine detective work, there! Unfortunately I can't tell you who the traitor is, but all will be revealed! And possibly sooner than you think! (Or will it?)

My next question: is there any chance we can see the Mercian Freedom Fighters any time soon?

Yes! Well -- define "soon"...

Is there any chance of seeing Iron Rotor again, maybe in his own story arc in Sonic Universe?

A Rotor arc? Don't you mean BOOMER? After all, everyone's favorite (except Mike's) purple Walrus just got Genesis-i-fied over in our sister title SONIC THE HEDGEHOG! Read STH#226 to check it out!

Okay, that should be it for now. Keep up the awe-inspiring work. Hopefully Nicole can get some more time spots in the comic too. Hope I made some ink on the comics, if not I hope this goes into the blogs because I'm sending this a little past 1:30am!

A True Fan,
G. Scott H. Jr.
sent to
sonic@archiecomics.com

Nicole will have lots to do -- that is, of course, presuming the world returns to normal! Anyway, go to sleep!

See y'all next month!

IT'S YOUR SONIC UNIVERSE!

We want your input! Write & tell us what you're likin', lovin', or what's leaving you in the dust! Remember, include "My Sonic Universe" in the subject line on your letter or e-mail! It's your Sonic Universe, after all, so drop us a line!